

1. (Original) A device for dispensing pet treats at a plurality of selected times during a predetermined period, comprising:

a container for holding a plurality of pet treats;
a time controlled dispenser for dispensing a plurality of pet treats, said time controlled dispenser including a microprocessor and an input device, said input device inputting the predetermined period into said microprocessor, said microprocessor including a program to automatically calculate a schedule for dispensing the pet treats at times which are randomized and which are biased such that when the predetermined period is subdivided into a number of equal consecutive intervals, said number of equal consecutive intervals equivalent to the number of planned dispensations, the majority of said intervals always include at least one of said times.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said pet treats are pet comestibles.

3. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said pet treats are pet toys.

4. (Original) The device of claim 3 wherein said pet toys each contains a pet comestible.

5. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said dispenser dispenses a plurality of said pet treats at any one time.

6. (Original) A method of dispensing pet treats from a container including a microprocessor and an input device at a plurality of selected times during a predetermined period, comprising the steps of:

signaling, through use of the input device, the microprocessor to calculate a schedule to dispense pet treats;
calculating, through the use of the microprocessor, said schedule to dispense the pet treats during the predetermined period at times which are randomized and which

are biased such that when the predetermined period is subdivided into a number of equal consecutive intervals, said number of equal consecutive intervals equivalent to the number of planned dispensations, the majority of said intervals always include at least one of said times; and

dispensing said pet treats according to said schedule.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said pet treats are pet comestibles.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said pet treats are pet toys.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein said pet toys each contain a pet comestible.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein a plurality of pet treats are dispensed in rapid succession.

11. (Original) The method of claim 6 in which said times are calculated by subdividing said predetermined period into a number of equal consecutive intervals, said number of equal consecutive intervals equivalent to the number of planned dispensations, and selecting at least one of said times within each of a majority of said intervals.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6 in which said times are calculated from a stored set of numbers.

13. (Original) A device for dispensing pet treats at a plurality of selected times during a predetermined period, comprising:

a container for holding a plurality of the pet treats;

a time controlled dispenser for dispensing a plurality of the pet treats from said container said time controlled dispenser including a microprocessor and an input device, said input device to signal said microprocessor to calculate a schedule for dispensing said pet treats, said microprocessor including a program to automatically calculate

said schedule for dispensing the pet treats, said schedule constituting a first terminal interval, a second terminal interval, and at least one middle interval provided between said first and second terminal intervals, said schedule allowing the dispensing of at least one pet treat at the end of said first terminal interval and at least one pet treat at the beginning of said second terminal interval, wherein at least one of said terminal intervals is always less than the average time duration of all of said intervals.

14. (Original) The device of claim 13 wherein said pet treats are pet comestibles.

15. (Original) The device of claim 13 wherein said pet treats are pet toys.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15 wherein said pet toys each contain a pet comestible.

17. (Original) The device of claim 13 wherein said dispenser dispenses a plurality of said pet treats in rapid succession.

18. (New) The device of claim 1, said time controlled dispenser further including a means for generating an audio signal prior to at least one of said planned dispensations.

19. (New) The device of claim 13, said time controlled dispenser further including a means for generating an audio signal prior to the dispensing of at least one of said pet treats.

20. (New) The method of claim 6, further including the step of producing an audio signal prior to the dispensing of at least one of said pet treats.